

SWAN Health Symposium

Join PRCS in partnership with the **Sound Wellness Alliance Network** for a day of family fun! Saturday, October 9, 2021



9:00 AM SWAN Salmon 1 Mile Kids Dash

10:00 AM SWAN Salmon 5K Walk/Run

11:00 AM Salmon "Ride & Seek" Scavenger Hunt

6:00 PM Hike & Bonfire at Meals Hill

FOR ADDITIONAL INFO, PLEASE VISIT SWANALASKA.ORG OR VALDEZAK.GOV/REGISTER



Director's

LETTER

Dear Patrons of Valdez Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services,

As we start to engage with in-person activities, the PRCS team thanks all our patrons for their support and diligence during the pandemic. The Valdez community was able to pull together and allow us to deliver high-quality services through their adherence to our mitigation strategies. Due to this diligence, we had an amazing summer season!

We worked with hundreds of youth and visitors while delivering countless hours of engaged learning and reading opportunities. Our Civic Center staff was able to host the successful Valdez Theatre Conference and several outstanding weddings.

As the weather starts to change and we turn our thoughts to the upcoming fall, please check out our amazing programming. We have everything you and your kids need to stay active, healthy and engaged in the coming months. Thank you again from the entire PRCS staff and recreate well!



Nicholas Farline

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Director

Library Board

The Valdez Consortium Library Board is a seven-member board appointed by the City Council. The Library Board assists in fundraising and promoting library services, and also serves in an advisory capacity on library policies and procedures.

The Library Board meets the first Wednesday of each month at 5:30 PM in the Valdez Consortium Library. The Board does not usually meet in June, July or August.



LIBRARY BOARD MEMBERS

Sharry Miller Wendy Langseth Jennifer Benda Bart Hinkle Megan Gunderson Breanna Odencrans Andrew Goldstein

Parks & Recreation Commission

The commission is an advisory commission to the City Council and the Planning and Zoning commission. It shall act in an advisory capacity to the city in regard to the planning, implementation and enforcement of programs dealing with the establishment, development and maintenance of parks, the creation and preservation of recreational facilities and opportunities, and the conservation of natural and recreational features within the city.

The Parks & Recreation Commission meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in City Council Chambers



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

Benjamin Rush Amy Goold
Pete Carter Carl Gressel
Sarah Jorgenson-Owen Michael Britt

Valdez Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services

Staff Information



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

Nicholas Farline

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Director nfarline@valdezak.gov 907-835-2531

Nikki Duhamel

Office Manager aduhamel@valdezak.gov 907-835-2531

Mary Baron

Administrative Assistant mbaron@valdezak.gov 907-835-4526



CONVENTION & CIVIC CENTER

Jennifer James

Convention & Civic Center Facility Manager jjames@valdezak.gov 907-835-4440

Robert Smith

Movie & Event Service Technician rsmith@valdezak.gov 907-835-4440

Alicia Moyer

Theatre & Lighting Technician amoyer@valdezak.gov 907-835-4440

Hope Van Der Meulen

Catering & Event Service Technician hvandermeulen@valdezak.gov 907-835-4440



LIBRARY

Mollie Good

Head Librarian mgood@valdezak.gov 907-835-4632

Molly Walker

Youth Services Librarian mwalker@valdezak.gov 907-835-4632

Sara Baker

Circulation Supervisor sbaker@valdezak.gov 907-835-4632

Jennifer Christoffersen

Library Assistant jchristoffersen@valdezak.gov 907-835-4632

Candy Davis

Library Assistant cdavis@valdezak.gov 907-835-4632

Debbie Larcom

Library Assistant dlarcom@valdezak.gov 907-835-4632



*

PARKS MAINTENANCE & CEMETERIES

Marcie Robertson

Parks Maintenance Supervisor/ Cemetery Manager mrobertson@valdezak.gov 907-835-5413

Brian Roosma

Parks Maintenance Foreman broosma@valdezak.gov 907-835-5413

Cole Beck

Parks Maintenance Crew Leader cbeck@valdezak.gov 907-835-5413



RECREATION

Jared Lustig Recreation Manager

jlustig@valdezak.gov 907-835-4526 (x1)

Bridget Irish

Recreation Coordinator birish@valdezak.gov 907-835-4526 (x2)

Krystal Moulton

Recreation Coordinator kmoulton@valdezak.gov 907-835-4526 (x3)

Hannah Haase

Aquatic Coordinator hhaase@valdezak.gov 907-835-5429



8 Parks & Recreation

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PRCS Staff	.2
How to Register	.4
Upcoming Events	. 5
Bouncing Back From COVID-19	. 6
Valdez Consortium Library Goes Fine Free	.8
Park Amenities	. 9
Maps & Trail Guides	10
Theatre, Valdez Convention & Civic Center	14

aldez Consortium Library	15					
ec Pass and Facility Rentals						
acility Information						
arks & Recreation Programming 18						
Aquatics	18					
Enrichment Camps	20					
Nature Events	22					
Sports, Fitness & Wellness	23					

2 valdezak.gov/compass Fall 2021

Compass

City of Valdez Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Guide Fall 2021

CITY STAFF

Nicholas Farline

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Director

Jared Lustig

Recreation Manager

Jennifer James

Convention & Civic Center Facility Manager

Marcie Robertson

Park Maintenance Supervisor and Cemetery Manager

Mollie Good

Head Librarian

Illianna Degollado

Chief Editor

John Litel

Creative Director

Mike Greenwald

Art Director

Peter Scholz

Senior Designer

CONTRIBUTORS

Ryan Burke

Nikki Duhamel

Kim Newcomer

Maggie Shafer

Emily Wydeven

ON THE COVER

Photo courtesy of Jeremy Talbott Photography, www.frontier-49.com

Register

Upcoming **Events**

Register Online

The easiest way to register for Parks & Recreation activities is now online with CivicRec. CivicRec allows you to search, register and pay for activities on any computer, tablet or smartphone. Just follow these easy steps:

- 1. Visit valdezak.gov/register
- 2. Log in with an existing account or create a new account by following these steps:
 - Select Login/Create Account in the upper left corner, then select Create Your VPR Account.
 - On mobile devices, select Account in upper right, then select Sign Up.
 - Fill out the required information.
 - To receive text alerts (class cancellations, facility closing, etc.), indicate your mobile carrier next to your cell number.
 - Additional household members (spouse, children, etc.) may be added at any time in your Account Settings. Keep your entire household on one account!
- 3. Browse our online catalog of upcoming activities. When you've found an activity, make sure you select the correct account member before adding it to your cart.

Registration Desk

Registration is located in the Ike "Woody" Woodman Recreation Center. If you need help registering, walk in or give us a call. Registration is available on a first-come, first-served basis and payment is due in full at the time of registration.

Address 414 W. Hanagita Dr., Valdez, AK 99686

Phone 907-835-4526

O Hours 9:00 AM-7:00 PM

Programs/events with this icon require registration

Refunds/Cancellations

Valdez Parks & Recreation reserves the right to cancel an activity for any reason. If we cancel an activity, a full refund will be issued. If you need to cancel your registration, a refund can be issued. Refunds requested more than one week prior to the start of an activity will be issued in full. Refunds requested within one week of the start of an activity will be issued a 50% refund. No refunds will be issued after the start of an activity. Please allow up to 45 days to process all refund requests.

Scholarship Program

The Parks & Recreation scholarship program is designed to assist families who may need financial assistance for their children to experience our recreational activities. While it is our intent to provide activities to all residents, limitations on how much an individual and family can use have been put into place. To be eligible, applicants must demonstrate financial need at the time of registration, including, but not limited to: enrollment in WIC, reduced or free lunch program, proof of welfare or another type of low-income subsidy. Please contact the Recreation team at 907-835-4526 for inquiries.



Saturday October 9

9:00 AM-8:00 PM All Ages | FREE!

SWAN Health Symposium

Parks & Recreation is proud to partner with the Sound Wellness Alliance Network to offer a variety of activities and events as part of SWAN's annual Health Symposium! Join us Saturday, October 9 for the annual SWAN Salmon 5K & Kids' Dash, a "Ride and Seek" Scavenger Hunt, and community hike up Meals Hill, which will include a bonfire and treats at the top! For additional information, visit swanalaska.org. See page 22.



Friday October 29

3:00–8:00 PM All Ages | FREE!

Halloween Events

Parks & Rec is pleased to bring back its Halloween Carnival and Business Trick-or-Treat! Dress up the kiddos for a "spooktacular" afternoon of trick-or-treating at local businesses and community organizations, then join us at the Convention & Civic Center for a fun-filled evening of treats, games and prizes! See page 22.



Thursday **November 25**

8:30 AM All Ages | FREE!

es | FREE!

Turkey Trot 5K & Fun Run

Join us for the 2021 Turkey Trot 5K & Fun Run! Get out and get moving on Thanksgiving Day, win some prizes and celebrate your health before sitting down for a feast! See page 24.



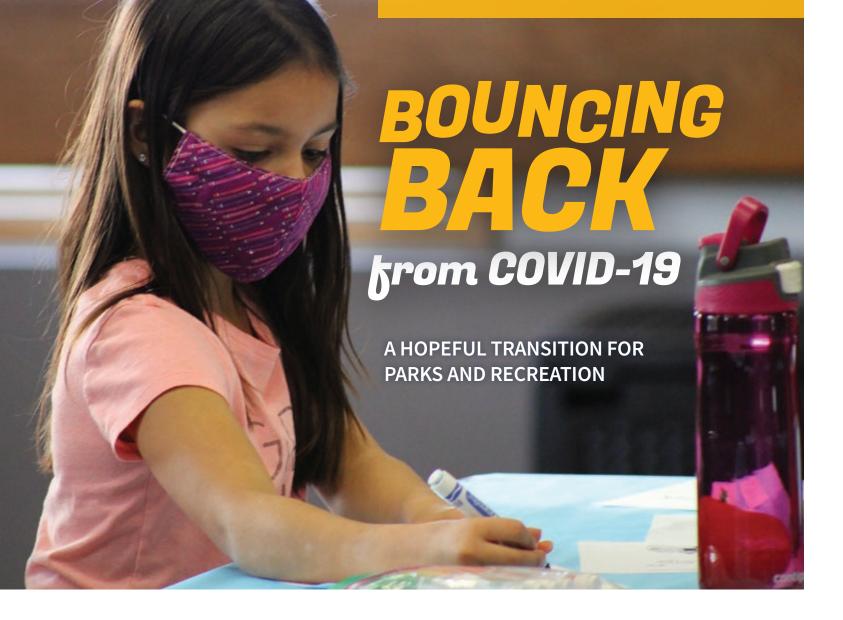
Sunday **November 28**

5:30–6:30 PM All Ages | FREE!

Community Tree Lighting

Time for some holiday cheer! Grab a treat or a cup of hot chocolate, sing some holiday classics and join your neighbors as we welcome the start of the holiday season with a Valdez tradition – the 39th annual Community Tree Lighting Ceremony! See page 22.

Valdez Compass Fall 2021



s Recreation Manager, Jared Lustig's position entails overseeing the community's recreation activities and events. Valdez is famous for its outdoor offerings, and the height of outdoor activities among residents and tourists alike is during the summer. So it was a unique and especially difficult challenge when COVID-19 swept the world just a few months before summer arrived.

"As a city, we started shutting down early to mid-March of 2020," Lustig says. "We basically had to shut down our programming and all of our facilities. There were so many question marks and unknowns. Everyone was just trying to do their best and make the right decision." The first few months were hardest, since everything went into complete lockdown. Starting at the end of June, Lustig and his team were able to begin reimplementing events and activities – albeit within a limited capacity.

Lustig admits that he and his team never envisioned anything like this ever happening. But the setback didn't stop the team from immediately adapting to the circumstances.

"Not running a program was not an option for us,"
Lustig says. "It was a matter of how we could adapt
and what sort of programs we could do – what could
we do and what could we still offer, while working
with the guidance of the CDC and state."

The Parks and Recreation team did everything they could to follow health and safety protocols while finding creative ways to limit and stagger the numbers of participants without canceling events altogether. Many new solutions and workarounds were required, but in the end, the Parks and Recreation team pulled through.

"I think everyone did a great job here mitigating and coming up with plans," Lustig concludes. He adds: "We were lucky to offer anything and thankful for the work that was done. Many other communities in other parts of the country have not been as fortunate."

Here Lustig reveals an interesting side note: Valdez, due to its local population (just under 4,000) being so small, has been able to handle the pandemic relatively well and keep its COVID-19 numbers low.

It's now been a year since the Parks and Recreation team has been able to reopen their program, and things this summer are looking much brighter. While tourists Everyone did a great job here mitigating and coming up with plans.

— **Jared Lustig**, Recreation Manager

continue to return to fish and explore the surrounding nature, nearly all the participants in Valdez's recreation program are locals. They are able to enjoy a wide offering of activities provided by the Recreation team, ranging from skiing to pickleball to gold panning for kids.

"This year is a lot more hopeful," the Recreation Manager concludes. "We have a pretty full slate this summer. There's more of a buzz around town – there's more people out doing things. RV parks are filling up, and there's more people in restaurants. Hopefully it signals a trend for the better. We are definitely headed in the right direction."



6 valdezak.gov/compass

Valdez Compass Fall 2021

Valdez Consortium Library Goes

Fine Free



ollie Good, Head Librarian, is excited about the Valdez Consortium Library's newest policy. The Valdez Consortium Library is officially "fine free." Residents who return overdue books are no longer charged for being late. Good explains that charging late fees is an old practice that has been around basically as long as libraries themselves. In her view, though, charging late fees has historically done more harm than good.

"We've learned that fines don't really incentivize people to return items," Good explains. "Instead, it creates a negative association. It discourages kids from coming back to check out more books."

The new policy of removing late fees was implemented October last year, and while it's only been several months since, Good is already seeing signs of success.

"We haven't had an increase of lost items at all – if anything, it's been the opposite," she says.

Libraries are run on an honor system to begin with, and so it only makes sense that this is one more step toward giving grace to people when returning library items. But what happens if someone decides to keep a book indefinitely? "A book that is late by more than three months is considered a 'lost item,' and there is a bill for lost items," Good reveals. The good news is that once the item is returned, the bill goes away, or if the item truly is lost, it just needs to be paid for to put an account back in good standing.

Her outlook on the library's future, coming out of the pandemic with this brand-new policy is one of optimism:

"It's been great to see this national trend ... it really caught fire and our library board and the Valdez City Council were really great about supporting it and pushing it forward. What a wonderful thing for us to be able to reopen from the pandemic *and* to be able to share this with the community."



City of Valdez Parks & Recreation

Park Amen	ities	Available to Rent	Shelter	Picnic Tables	BBQ Grill	Restrooms	Playground	Basketball	Volleyball	Tennis	Disc/Foot Golf	Skate Park	Dog Park	Multipurpose Space	Baseball/Softball Fields	Archery Range	Natural Area	Water Access	Walking/Hiking Access	Scenic Viewpoint	Historic Site
Alpine Woods Park & Playground	7100 Richardson Hwy.	√	√ *	√	✓	√	√	√	√												
Barney Meyring Park – North	250 Hanagita St.	√	√ *	√	✓	√	√	✓		√				✓	✓				✓		
Barney Meyring Park – South	251 Pioneer Dr.	√	√ *				√							✓					✓		
Black Gold Parkstrip	682 Copper Dr.			√			√														
Civic Center Overlook	110 Clifton Dr.		√																\	✓	
Corbin Creek Playground	3051 Mendenhall St.						√														
Dock Point Beach	195 Kennicott Ave.	\	√ *	√	✓	✓												✓	\	✓	
Glacier View Park	1598 Airport Rd.			√	✓													✓		✓	
Gold Fields Recreation Complex	1.5 Mile Richardson Hwy.	✓				✓	✓				✓				/ *	✓					
John Thomas Kelsey Municipal Plaza	460 Ferry Terminal Way		✓	√	✓	✓															
Kayak Launch	South of Ruth Pond Park																	^			
Luke Horning Memorial Skate Park	407 W. Pioneer Dr.			√								✓									
Meals Hill	West of Ruth Pond Park																✓		✓	✓	
Mineral Creek State Park	1700 Homestead Rd.																		√	✓	
Pioneer Cemetery	2880 Richardson Hwy.																		✓		✓
Robe River Park	114 River Dr.	√	√ *	√	✓	√	√	✓													
Ruth Pond Park	345 Fidalgo Dr.	√	√ *	√	✓	√	√											✓	✓		
Shana Anderson Dog Park	911 Meals Avenue												✓								
Shoup Bay Park	1700 W. Egan Dr.					✓	√												>		
Old Town Site	Intersection of Alaska Ave. & McKinley St.																				✓
Valdez Memorial Cemetery	3434 Richardson Hwy.																		✓		✓
Veterans Memorial Park	400 Galena Dr.																				✓

*Indicates amenity is available to rent.

Park Rental Information



PARK RENTAL FEES

\$100 + \$10/hour

Picnic Shelter/Park Reservation: \$25 + \$6/hour Goldfields Softball Fields:

PARK/SHELTER RESERVATIONS

Park/shelter reservations are available to reserve May 15–September 15. Park facilities may be used on a first-come, first-served basis when not reserved and from September–April as weather permits.

Reservation requests can be made online at valdezak.gov/register or in person at the PRCS Main Office. For questions or assistance, call 907-835-2531.

CITY OF VALDEZ Fall Trails

"In Town" Trail System

This map shows many of the existing trails available in and around the City of Valdez. Please respect the designated trail uses and leave the trail in good condition for the next user. Thank you for your help and, as always, have fun!

Helpful Hints for Hikers

- Dress in layers: Weather can change and temperatures drop quickly. It's always wise to be prepared! Be sure to wear appropriate foot gear and pack extra socks. In this damp climate, cotton can be your worst enemy. Moisture-wicking and breathable yet waterproof fabrics work best. Good choices would be: polypropylene, light wool and GORE-TEX.
- Tell someone where you are going: Be sure someone knows where you are going, how long you plan on being gone, and check in with them once your venture is completed.
- Hike in a group: Hiking in numbers is best. Conversation helps keep wild game away, and you never know if you'll need a helping hand during your woodland adventure.
- Bring enough water & stay hydrated: Packing plenty of water is essential. Alaskan streams might appear to be wonderful drinking water, but there is always the risk of bacterial ingestion, which can lead to extreme illness.
- Bring a first-aid kit: You never know when an accident will happen!
- Protect your skin: Alaska is known for its powerful rays, so be sure to wear and bring along sunscreen. Bug repellant is a must-have to keep mosquitoes away and help provide you with a much more comfortable trek.
- Caution: Trail conditions may vary hike at your own risk.



10 valdezak.gov/compass Valdez Compass Fall 2021

"Out of Town" Trail System

Many of these trails are maintained by the City of Valdez. The area of these trails is extensive, so trail conditions can vary greatly. Use caution when recreating in these areas, and always be aware of the possibility of multiple types of users. Be especially cautious on blind corners and near open water.

Bear Safety Tips

- - **Plan ahead:** Always let someone know where you are. Be sure to check in when you return.
- **Travel in a group:** Avoid hiking alone and travel in a group. Groups of three or more people are best.
- Be alert: Watch for signs of bears on the trail, including tracks, droppings, diggings, overturned rocks, scratch marks on trees and torn-apart logs. Keep an ear out for unusual noises like bushes rustling or grunting sounds.
- Make noise: Talk in a nonthreatening monotone voice, sing or clap your hands to let a bear know of your presence. Shout often when traveling upwind.
- Keep your distance: Watch and photograph wildlife from a safe distance of 100 yards from bears and 25 yards from other large wildlife. Never approach, follow or feed wildlife.
- **Keep children close:** Children should be kept within your immediate sight at all times and avoid playing in or near dense cover.
- **Avoid carcasses:** It is very risky to approach a carcass; a bear may be just out of sight, guarding its food.
- Avoid odorous items: Leave foods and beverages with strong odors, scented deodorants, lotions and other odorous items at home.
- **Stay with your gear:** Don't leave your packs, food or beverages unattended.
- Control your pet: If dogs are permitted, keep them on a short leash. Remember to pick up after your dog(s) to avoid attracting bears to the area.
- Pack it in, pack it out: Remove all food and waste that you bring. This avoids attracting wildlife and keeps the area clean for the next visitor to enjoy.

In case of an emergency or if you notice anyone harassing or practicing unsafe behavior toward bears or other wildlife, please call the Valdez Police Department at 907-835-4560 or Valdez Animal Control at 907-835-2286.



Facility Spotlight

Valdez Civic Center Theatre



Are you interested in seeing some of the hottest new movie releases? Join us at the Civic Center Theatre.

- Doors open 45 minutes before showtime.
- Box Office will close 20 minutes after the movie starts.
- Want to speed up your wait time in ticketing lines?
 Online ticket purchasing is available and encouraged.
 Visit: valdezak.gov/cinema.

For a complete list of movies, showtimes and safety protocol, visit: valdezak.gov/cinema or join us on Facebook for updates and information: facebook.com/valdezcinema.

MOVIE TICKET PRICES

TICKET CATEGORY	MATINEE (BEFORE 6:00 PM)	EVENING (AFTER 6:00 PM)
Adult	\$8.00	\$9.00
Student (with ID)	\$7.00	\$8.00
Military (with ID)	\$7.00	\$8.00
Senior (65+)	\$6.00	\$7.00
Child (3–12 yrs)	\$6.00	\$7.00

For 3D movies add \$1.00 per person to every category for every showing.

Valdez Convention and Civic Center

GREAT EVENTS START WITH AN AMAZING VENUE

Located in the heart of our city, the Valdez Convention and Civic Center is an ideal destination for meetings, conventions and gatherings. Come for business, but take pleasure in our hiking and skiing trails, all rich with wildlife. Often considered "the best view in town," the huge windows of the Center's main hall overlook the Port of Valdez, a place where the mountains meet the sea.

THE CONVENTION AND CIVIC CENTER FEATURES

- 6,400 sq. ft. of ballrooms
- Conference room and meeting accessories
- Wi-Fi & high-speed internet
- Digital theatre complex
- Commercial catering kitchen



To discuss your meeting or convention needs, call Facility Manager Jennifer James at 907-835-4440 or email her at jjames@valdezak.gov. Learn more online at: valdezak.gov/CivicCenter.

Facility Spotlight

Valdez Consortium Library

Library Programs



LIBRARY LAB

- 1st Tuesday of the month @ 3:30–4:30 PM (Sept–April)
- 1st-5th grade (limit 10), registration required
- Calling all scientists! Join us at the library after school for science experiments, snacks and more!

LEGO MY LIBRARY

- Every Wednesday @ 3:30–4:30 PM
- All ages welcome, no registration required*
- Be a master builder! Grab your friends and create with LEGO each week!

ABC STORYTIME

- Every Thursday @ 11:15 AM-12:00 PM
- Intended for ages 0–3 (all ages are welcome), no registration required*
- Let's read together! Join us at the library for stories, songs and rhymes for the littlest emerging readers!

*Prior registration may be implemented if necessary for COVID-19 mitigation purposes.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

- Every Friday @ 11:15 AM-12:00 PM
- Intended for ages 3–6 (all ages are welcome), no registration required*
- Friday is our favorite day! Join us at the library for stories, songs and early literacy activities for preschoolers and their families!

STEM SATURDAY

- 2nd Saturday of the month @ 1:00–2:00 PM (Sept–April)
- All ages welcome, no registration required*
- Science, technology, engineering and math, oh my!
 Spend Saturday afternoon discovering, investigating and exploring with STEM!

HALLOWEEN PARTY

- Sunday, October 24 @ 1:00-2:30 PM
- All ages welcome, no registration required*
- Wear your costume and join us at the library for Halloween fun for the whole family!

LIBRARY SERVICES, HOURS, CONTACT



24/7 Wi-Fi access

Public computers and printing (\$.25/page)

Access to free ebooks & digital audiobooks on the Libby app

Free swap books located in the lower level of the library

Monday 10 AM - 6 PM
Tues.-Thurs. 10 AM - 7 PM
Friday 10 AM - 6 PM
Saturday 12 - 5 PM



Location: 212 Fairbanks Drive Phone: 907-835-4632

Facebook: facebook.com/ValdezLibrary
Web: valdezak.gov/library



15

14 valdezak.gov/compass Fall 2021

Get a NEW Rec Pass today!

ENJOY SAVINGS AND FREE POOL ACCESS WITH YOUR CARD

We are excited to introduce our new Rec Pass to the public. The Rec Pass offers the cardholder a reduced rate on Parks and Recreation programs and FREE admission to the Valdez Swimming Pool.



REC PASS BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- Free access to the Valdez Swimming Pool.
- 10% discount on program registration and facility rentals*.
- Benefits are subject to change based on community needs and department resources.

DOCUMENTS TO APPLY FOR YOUR REC PASS

Residency Qualifications: A resident is anyone who permanently resides within the Valdez city limits. Individuals must provide proof of residency using one of the following forms:

- Valid photo ID (driver's license or state ID card) showing city address and/or local P.O. Box.
- If ID does not show a City of Valdez physical address or P.O. Box, you will need one of the following additional

documents: utility bill (gas/electric, telephone, etc.) from within the last three (3) months, voter registration, vehicle registration or insurance card, or current residential lease.

Non-Resident Military Requirements: Any active duty personnel or honorably discharged veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces, Reserves or National Guard must provide proof of military service in one of the following forms:

- Active-duty/Reserve/National Guard: Current military ID card or active-duty paperwork.
- Veterans: Veterans ID card, veterans health ID card, state ID card with veteran designation, DD-214 or DD-215 form, or VA proof of service letter. No documents will be kept by the City of Valdez.
- * Discount does not apply to facility rental scheduling fees or add-ons.

Facility Rentals

Reservation requests can be made online at **valdezak.gov/ register** or in person at the Recreation Center or Pool with a *Rental Application*.

Ike "Woody" Woodman Recreation Center					
Game Room	\$20/hour				
Multipurpose Room	\$20/hour				
Covered Patio	\$10/hour				

Contact Krystal Moulton, Recreation Coordinator, at 907-835-4526 for availability and inquiries.

Valdez City Pool	
Reservation Fee (non-refundable)	\$10
Lap Pool	\$30/hour
Leisure Pool	\$30/hour
Waterslide	\$15/hour

Contact Hannah Haase, Aquatic Coordinator, at 907-835-5429 for availability and inquiries.

Gilson Middle School Rock Wall	
Rock Wall	\$30/hour

Contact Bridget Irish, Recreation Coordinator, at 907-835-4526 for availability and inquiries.

PRCS Administrative Office 314 Clifton Ct. | Valdez, AK 99686 907-835-2531 M-F 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

FACILITY INFORMATION

Valdez Convention & Civic Center						
9	314 Clifton Ct. Valdez, AK 99686					
	907-835-4440					
0	M-F 9:00 AM-5:00 PM					
	M-F 9:00 AM-5:00 PM					

Valo	Valdez Consortium Library						
Q	212 Fairbanks Dr. Valdez, AK 99686						
	907-835-4632						
0	M 10:00 AM-6:00 PM T-Th 10:00 AM-7:00 PM F 10:00 AM-6:00 PM Sa 12:00-5:00 PM						

Parks Maintenance & Cemeteries					
9	602 W. Egan Ave. Valdez, AK 99686				
	907-835-5413				
0	M-F 9:00 AM-5:00 PM				

Parks & Recreation Hotline 907-835-3200

Ike "Woody" Woodman Recreation Center					
9	414 W. Hanagita St. Valdez, AK 99686				
	907-835-4526				
0	M–F 9:00 AM–7:00 PM Sa 12:00–7:00 PM Su Rentals Only				

NOTE: All facility hours are subject to change due to COVID-19.

Valdez Swimming Pool						
9	319 Robe River Dr. Valdez, AK 99686 (entrance is located behind Valdez High School)					
	907-835-5429					
0	For current schedule: valdezak.gov/pool					

Swimming Pool Daily Admission Fees			
Rec Pass Cardholders	FREE		
Seniors (62+)	\$3		
Adults (18–61)	\$5		
Youth (3–17)	\$3		
Military (18+)	\$3		

FALL PRCS FACILITY CLOSURES

DATE	MAIN OFFICE	CIVIC CENTER	LIBRARY	REC CENTER POOL
Sept 6	Closed	Closed	Closed	
Oct 18	Closed	Closed	Closed	
Nov 11	Closed	Closed	Closed	
Nov 25	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Nov 26	Closed		Closed	
Dec 24	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Dec 25	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed

17

Valdez Compass Fall 2021



Pool Events

Dive-In Movies

Join Parks & Recreation at the pool for some family fun and a movie! Lounge in the leisure pool or take a dip in the lap pool all while enjoying your favorite family-friendly features!

Ages: All

Hocus Pocus - PG

10/23	Sa	1:30-3:30 PM	Free
Free Birds	– PG		
11/20	Sa	1:30-3:30 PM	Free
Arthur Chri	istmas – PG		
12/18	Sa	1:30-3:30 PM	Free

Pool Programs

Mini-Mermaids

Mini-Mermaids is designed for children who have completed some swimming lessons and will work toward performing the skills required to attend Mermaid University in the future! Mini-Mermaids will participate in exciting new games and drills to bring them closer to becoming a real mermaid, and will work on skills such as back floats, front floats and dolphin kicks. This course requires several prerequisite swimming skills, please visit our website and/or online catalog for details.

Ages: 5-13

10/23-11/13 Sa 11:00-11:45 AM \$25



Mermaid University **Z**

Mermaid University swim classes teach how to safely swim with a mermaid tail and mono-fin. Participants will partake in fun games and skill drills that teach them how to safely maneuver the water in a mermaid-acceptable fashion! This course requires several prerequisite swimming skills, please visit our website and/or online catalog for details. Children who do not meet the prerequisites are encouraged to sign up for the Mini-Mermaids class! All mermaid tails are provided by Parks & Recreation.

Ages: 6-13

10/23-11/13 Sa 12:00-12:45 PM \$25



Swim Lessons

Preschool

Preschool Swimming Lessons are for children ages 3–5 years of age. During this class, participants will be introduced to the following skills: submerging their face in the water, submerging their full body (performing bobs), jumping into water, front floats, back floats, front crawl arms (freestyle arms), front and back glides with kicks, front crawl (freestyle) for 20 feet, elementary backstroke for 20 feet and safety swimming.

Ages: 3-5

10/4-10/15	M-F	4:15-5:00 PM	\$40
12/6-12/17	M-F	4·15–5·00 PM	\$40

Beginner

Beginner Swimming Lessons are for children who have completed Preschool Swimming Lessons at the Valdez City Pool or have participated in an equivalent lesson. (If your child has completed the previous programs Minnows and Tadpoles, they are eligible for this class). Participants in this class will learn to perform the following skills unassisted: submerging face, submerging body, jumping into deep water, front and back floats, front and back glides with kicks, front crawl (freestyle), elementary backstroke, backstroke and introduction to breaststroke.

Ages: 3-12

10/4-10/15	M-F	5:15-6:00 PM	\$40
12/6-12/17	M-F	5:15-6:00 PM	\$40



Advanced Beginner 🗹

The Advanced Beginner Swimming Classes are for those who have previously taken and passed the Beginner Swimming Class or a class of equivalent difficulty. Participants in this class will learn skills to both increase swimming distance and fine-tune strokes. In addition to the skills learned in the previous class, students will learn the following: unassisted breaststroke, scissor kick, and sidestroke arms.

Ages: 5-12

10/4-10/15	M-F	5:45-6:30 PM	\$40
12/6-12/17	M-F	5:45-6:30 PM	\$40

OPEN SWIM DESCRIPTIONS

General Swim

Both pools are available during this time with 2–3 lanes dedicated to lap swim. A variety of aquatic exercise equipment and toys are available to swimmers.

AGES: All

Lap Swim

All six lanes of the lap pool are open on a first-come, first-served basis. A variety of aquatic equipment is available to swimmers, including pull buoys, kick boards, paddles and fins.

AGES: 15+

Rec Swim

Rec Swim is an unstructured open swim time for all ages. Both pools are open and a variety of pool features and pool toys may be available, including the diving board and water slide, depending on staff levels.

Children under the age of 8 must have an adult (18+) in the water with them at all times, and children ages 8–10 must have an adult present on deck.

AGES: All

Tot Swim

Tot Swim is designed specifically for families with children ages 6 and under in the **leisure pool only**.

Participants have access to a variety of aquatic equipment and toys, including noodles, floaties and bath toys. A parent/guardian (18+) is required to be in the water and within arm's reach of their child at all times.

AGES: 6 & under

Monthly Pool Schedule is available at valdezak.gov/pool

Registration Dates:	
SWIM LESSONS	MERMAID SCHOOL
Session I: September 20 at 10:00 AM	Session I: October 11 at 10:00 AM
Session II: November 22 at 10:00 AM	

19

valdezak.gov/compass



Arts & Culture

Cultural Arts Series 🗹

Join volunteer instructor Diane Selanoff for an immersive afternoon of Alaskan Native arts and culture. All project materials and instruction provided.

Grades: 6–12th Birch Bark Baskets

Direit Dair	Daskets		
10/5	Tu	3:30-5:30 PM	\$10
Fur Flowe	rs		
10/19	Tu	3:30-5:30 PM	\$10
Ornament	tal Hunter H	lats	
11/2	Tu	3:30-5:30 PM	\$10
Ornament	tal Mittens		
11/16	Tu	3:30-5:30 PM	\$10
Ornament	tal Stocking	gs	
11/30	Tu	3:30-5:30 PM	\$10
Bracelets			
12/14	Tu	3:30-5:30 PM	\$10

Swing Dancing **Z**

Throw on your dancin' shoes and swing into fall with this fun and energetic class! All ages and abilities welcome. Those under 15 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Space is limited, so register soon! Instructed by Emily Goss and Jay Johnson.

Ages: All

Ages: All			
10/4	М	6:00-8:00 PM	Free
10/11	М	6:00-8:00 PM	Free
10/18	М	6:00-8:00 PM	Free
10/25	М	6:00-8:00 PM	Free
11/1	М	6:00-8:00 PM	Free
11/8	М	6:00-8:00 PM	Free

Enrichment & Education

Middle School Madness 🗹

Middle School Madness is a free, late night tween drop-in program. Have a lot of fun while enjoying great company and tasty food!

Grades: 6-8th Tricky Trivia

9/17	F	7:30-9:00 PM	Free
Haunted N	lerf Wars		
10/15	F	7:30-9:00 PM	Free
Masters of	Mystery		
11/19	F	7:30-9:00 PM	Free

Preschool

Mighty Mites

Mighty Mites is designed as an unstructured, drop-in playtime for children under the age of five. A variety of toys are made available for children to enjoy to develop both physical and social skills. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Parks & Recreation provides bottled water and prepackaged snacks during this time.

Ages: 0-5 Might Mites - Fall

9/1-12/31	M,W	10:00 AM-12:00 PM	Free

Sensory Explorers, To Go!

One of our favorite programs is back, with a twist! Enjoy Sensory Explorers ... TO GO! Parks & Rec staff will put together fun and exciting kits for you and your little ones to enjoy. Each kit will be filled with a variety of fun, from wonderful sensory goodies, to activities, games and more! This to-go program is designed for little ones, ages 2–6. Preregistration is required. Once reserved, kits will be available for pickup at the Recreation Center after 9 AM on the program dates.

Ages: 2-6 Fun with Fall!

			
10/26	Tu	9:00 AM-7:00 PM	\$5
Color Me H	lappy!		
11/30	Tu	9:00 AM-7:00 PM	\$5
Wonderfu	l Winter!		
12/28	Tu	9:00 AM-7:00 PM	\$5



After School

Fab Fridays 🗹

The Valdez Museum, Advocates for Victims of Violence, Library and Parks & Recreation have partnered up to offer Fab Fridays! Programming is on a rotating schedule with a variety of activities each Friday for when kids get out of school early. These activities are the perfect way to keep your children engaged and active after school throughout the fall. Activities will range from education and arts & crafts to pool time and sports, and everything in between.

Grades: K-4th Advocates of Victims of Violence

9/3	F	2:30-5:00 PM	Free
10/1	F	2:30-5:00 PM	Free
11/5	F	2:30-5:00 PM	Free
12/3	F	2:30-5:00 PM	Free
Parks & Re	creation		
9/10	F	2:30-5:00 PM	Free
10/8	F	2:30-5:00 PM	Free
12/10	F	2:30-5:00 PM	Free
Valdez Mu	seum		
9/17	F	2:30-5:00 PM	Free
10/15	F	2:30-5:00 PM	Free
11/19	F	2:30-5:00 PM	Free
12/17	F	2:30-5:00 PM	Free
Valdez Lib	rary		
10/22	F	2:30-5:00 PM	Free

GAME ROOM OPEN TO ALL AGES

Woodman Recreation Center
M-F 9:00 AM-7:00 PM | Sa 12:00-7:00 PM

Camps

School's Out! In-service Day Camp 🗹

It's your day off! Join PRCS for some fun at School's Out! In-service Day Camp. Pool time, sports & games, arts & crafts, game room time and more!

Grades: 1st-5th

9/24	F	9:00 AM-5:00 PM	\$32
11/12	F	9:00 AM-5:00 PM	\$32

Winter Break Camp 🗹

Winter Break Camp is a great opportunity to have some extra fun! Participate in a variety of activities such as swimming at the pool, sledding, and arts & crafts!

Grades: 1st-5th

12/20–12/23 M–Th 9:00 AM–5:00 PM \$128



21

20 valdezak.gov/compass Fall 2021



NATURE

Nature Nuts 🗹

This after-school program will teach children to explore the environment in which we live through crafts, games, hikes and every adventure in between! This program utilizes multiple educational platforms and curriculum, such as Growing Up WILD, Leave No Trace principles and expertise from local professionals in the field, so children can have an experience that is not only educational, but also fun and exciting!

Grades: K-2nd Week 1 – Little Actions Make a BIG Difference

9/7-9/9	Tu,Th	3:00-5:00 PM	\$10
Week 2 – Un	der the Se	a	
9/14-9/16	Tu,Th	3:00-5:00 PM	\$10
Week 3 – Let	a's Talk Ani	mals	
9/21-9/23	Tu,Th	3:00-5:00 PM	\$10
Week 4 – Th	e Ultimate	Camper	
9/28-9/30	Tu,Th	3:00-5:00 PM	\$10



EVENTS

SWAN Salmon Family Fun Day

Join PRCS in partnership with the Sound Wellness Alliance Network for a day of family fun! Begin the day with the SWAN Salmon 1-Mile Kids' dash or 5K (please see SWAN Salmon 5K & 1-Mile Kids' Dash for registration), then join us for the Salmon "Ride and Seek" citywide bike-able scavenger hunt! Last but not least, hike up Meals Hill and end the day with a bonfire and s'mores!

Ages: All

Salmon "Ride and Seek" Scavenger Hunt

10/9	Sa	11:00 AM-5:00 PM	Free
Hike & Bo	nfire – Meal	s Hill	
10/9	Sa	6:00-9:00 PM	Free

Halloween Events

Join PRCS for the annual Halloween Carnival! Partake in games and activities while having an all-around festive time! Costumes encouraged!

Ages: All

Business Trick-or-Treat

10/29	F	3:00-5:00 PM	Free
Halloweer	Carnival		
10/29	F	6:00-8:00 PM	Free

Are you a nonprofit organization looking for a fundraising opportunity? Contact birish@valdezak.gov for more information.

To register your business, visit valdezak.gov/trickortreat.

Community Tree Lighting Celebration

Welcome the holiday season during the annual Community Tree Lighting celebration!

Ages: All

1	1/28	Su	5·30-6·30 PM	Free

SPORTS, FITNESS & WELLNESS

Sports & Leagues

Adult Coed Volleyball League 🗹

Looking for some friendly competition? Join us in one or all of our coed adult sport leagues! For additional information, contact the Recreation Center at 907-835-4526!

Ages: 18+

10/5-11/9	Tu	6:00-9:00 PM	\$60
10/5-11/5	Tu	0.00 J.00 I M	200

Fencing **Z**

Ever been interested in trying fencing? Join us for this centuries-old sport, where you will build stamina, strength, coordination and exercise your strategic thinking skills. Participants will have the opportunity to learn and practice proper techniques and enjoy bouts with their peers. Instructed by Father Eric Wiseman.

Ages: 8+

9/1-9/29	W	6:00-7:00 PM	Free
10/6-10/27	W	6:00-7:00 PM	Free
11/3-11/24	W	6:00-7:00 PM	Free



Rock Wall

Climbing Clinics **Z**

PRCS offers a variety of climbing clinics, great for both the experienced and new climber.

Ages: 15+

Beginner Climbing Clinic

12/12	Su	11:00 AM-3:00 PM	\$20
12/12	Ju	11.00 AM-3.00 I M	<u>٦</u> ۷(

Kids Rock! Climbing Camp 🗹

Kids Rock! Climbing Camp is designed to introduce children in grades K–8 to the lifelong sport of rock climbing. Through a variety of drills and games, children will develop the techniques and gain the confidence necessary to conquer the rock wall! Kids Rock, Level 3 will now be offered to kids in grades 5–8!

Grades: K-5 Level 1

Level I			
9/11-10/2	Sa	10:00-11:15 AM	\$30
11/6-11/27	Sa	10:00-11:15 AM	\$30
Level 2			
9/11-10/2	Sa	11:30 AM-12:45 PM	\$30
11/6-11/27	Sa	11:30 AM-12:45 PM	\$30
Grades: 5–8 Level 3			
9/11-10/2	Sa	12:45-2:00 PM	\$30
11/6-11/27	Sa	12:45-2:00 PM	\$30

23

Valdez Compass Fall 2021



Ladies' Night at the Rock Wall

Join us at the rock wall for a feature and an all-around great time! Join other climbers, both experienced and new to the sport, and challenge yourself on a new route or just hang out and socialize. This event is for all skill levels, all equipment is provided.

Ages: 15+

12/18	Sa	7:00-9:00 PM	Free

Rock Wall Orientation 📝

Have you ever wanted to try climbing? Join our staff for an introduction to the rock wall in a friendly and educational space for those new to the climbing realm! Feel free to ask our educated staff on all things climbing related. This free activity is for those ages 15+. Equipment is available for use. All participants must have a rock wall waiver on file prior to participating in this activity.

Ages: 15+

_			
9/18	Sa	2:30-3:00 PM	Free
10/16	Sa	2:30-3:00 PM	Free
11/20	Sa	2:30-3:00 PM	Free
12/18	Sa	2:30-3:00 PM	Free

Rocks & Reels

Join us at the rock wall for a movie and some climbing! A unique experience for the whole family! Please see session for feature information and age requirements.

Ages: All

Throwback Night - Ferris Bueller's Day Off

10/16	Sa	6:00-9:00 PM	Free				
Family Time – The Croods 2: A New Age							
12/4	Sa	6:00-8:30 PM	Free				

Runs & Races

SWAN Salmon 5K & Kids' Dash 🗹

Ages: All

SWAN Salmon 1-Mile Kids' Dash

10/9	Sa	9:00-10:00 AM	Free
SWAN Sa	lmon Walk/F	Run 5K	
10/9	Sa	10:00-11:00 AM	Free

Turkey Trot 5K & Fun Run 🗹

Join us on Thanksgiving for the 2021 Turkey Trot 5K and Fun Run! Get out and about on Thanksgiving Day, win prizes and celebrate your health!

Grades: Pre-K-5th

Turkey Trot 1-Mile Fun Run

11/25	Th	8:30-9:00 AM	Free
Ages: All Turkey Trot	: 5K Walk/	Run	



VALDEZ OPEN GYM & ROCK CLIMBING ACTIVITIES

All open gym and climbing activities are open to the public and free of charge. Activities are designed to be recreational in nature as a way for the community to stay active and have fun. Participants of all skills levels are always welcome. Appropriate attire and footwear are required at all times.

Open gym and rock wall schedules change monthly based on Valdez City School District activities and facility availability. For the most up-to-date gym schedule, please visit valdezak.gov/parks or pick-up a monthly schedule at the Woodman Recreation Center.

of these programs based on current health recommendations from the federal, state and city levels. Please check the monthly gym schedules for each activity and current availability

OPEN GYM

Adult Basketball

Adult basketball is open to players of all skill levels who want to shoot some hoops or join a pick-up game. Appropriate attire and non-marking footwear are required at all times to participate. Basketballs are provided by Parks & Recreation.

Ages: 18+

LOCATION: Valdez High School

Adult Volleyball

Volleyball is a great way to stay active, be social and have fun! Join us each week for an evening of adult-only recreational volleyball. Participants of all skill levels are welcome to play and all equipment is provided by Parks & Recreation.

Ages: 18+

LOCATION: Hermon Hutchens Elementary School

Pickleball

Join us for the thrill and excitement of pickleball! What is pickleball? Pickleball is a paddle ball sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton, and table tennis. It is played with two or four players at a time and is considered one of the fastest growing sports in America. This is a great opportunity to learn about the game and meet new people. Participants of all skill levels are welcome to attend and equipment is available for use.

Ages: 15+

LOCATION: Gilson Middle School

Rec Gym

Shoot some hoops or take a few laps around the court to get your steps in. Rec Gym is designed for all ages and a variety of equipment and balls are available for use. Nonmarking footwear is required.

Ages: All (if under 10, must be accompanied by an adult) **LOCATION: Hermon Hutchens Elementary School**

ROCK WALL - OPEN CLIMBING

Climbing is the perfect sport for the entire family. Whether you're new to this great lifetime sport, just introducing the little ones or looking to take your climbing to the next level, Parks & Recreation has something to offer everyone! Our rock wall is equipped with an auto-belay system that is open to climbers of all ages and abilities. Make sure to check our online schedule at valdezak.gov/parks each month for current hours. Climbing equipment is provided free of charge. Personal climbing equipment is subject to inspection by staff. All climbers must have a rock wall waiver on file prior to climbing.

Adult Climb

Ages: 18+

Family Climb

Ages: All (if under 15, must be accompanied by an adult)

Open Climb

Ages: All (if under 15, must be accompanied by an adult)

LOCATION: Gilson Middle School



